

**COCHISE
COUNTY
SHERIFF'S OFFICE**
205 JUDD DRIVE
BISBEE, AZ 85603
520-423-9500



COCHISE COUNTY SHERIFF SEARCH AND RESCUE

Special points of interest:

- 5.1 to 5.3.15 AZ State SAR Conference Heber AZ Cold Case Search
- 5.5.6.15 Training & meeting 1730 hrs Foothills Station
- 5.8.15 two search missions back to back. Assist SV PD with a search then search off of In Balance Ranch Rd.
- 5.10.15 Search Willcox
- 5.16.15 Swift Water Parker Canyon Lake
- 5.17.15 Assist Detectives with a cold case
- GOOD BYE FAREWELL TO RAUL AND DEBBIE FOR SERVING WITH CCSO SAR FOR OVER 30 YEARS. THANK YOU FOR YOUR UNTIREING SERVICE.
- 5.30.15 Swift Water Rodeo PHX
- 5.23.15 Graham County Assist
- 5.25.15 Chiricahua National Monument Assist Carry Out
- 5.28.15 Search In Balance Ranch Academy
- 5.29.15 Almost Search Presidential Estates. Search Tombstone
- 5.30.15 Search for distressed UDA

Dr. Scuba Corner

Just like a chain,
the system is
only as strong
as its weakest
link/
component.

This Month in Search and Rescue

May 2015

5.1. to 5.3.15 State SAR Conference Heber

The set up crew already left on Tuesday in order to get the facility ready for the State SAR Conference. This year we had quite a bit of help and accomplished this particular task rather quickly, getting class rooms ready, putting up the various signs etc. It is amazing, how many people ignore signs and do whatever they want, especially when it came to parking. Wednesday night was the



night for stuffing envelopes and getting all the registrations packets ready. We worked till about 9pm and resumed the next day after breakfast, to be ready for all the folks. Everyone pitched in. Larry made the long trip from Nebraska to attend a class prior to the conference and



then attended the conference as well. Several of our members attended this training with Freddy being the instructor for the Index tracking class.



Tom, the Finance Section Chief hard at work.

Harry was in charge of Helo operations, while David was the Operations Section Chief plus many more assignments.

The conference offered some outstanding training from terrain navigator, Canine, tracking, map and compass, GPS to some technical rescue, and many more. There was something for everyone. Mike in the Wilder-



ness First Aid class. Yvonne in



the Map and Compass class.



Setting up the mono pod for the Vortex.



Freddy teaching the classroom portion of his Index Tracking Class.



Operations
Section
Chief and
Helo

Heber continued



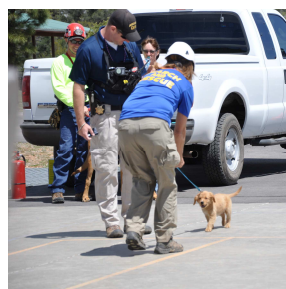
Personnel going through the ATV certification received some really good training. The



Canines and their handlers waiting their turn for the ingress/egress training.



The mounted group is working on line search formation. Not all that easy to stay in line.



And one can never start too early with the training program. Jr. search dog in training.



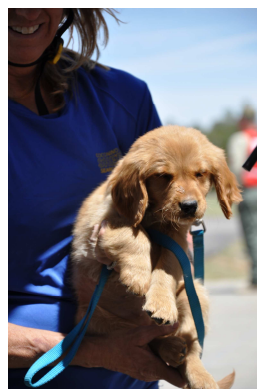
Map and compass class during their field training exercise

“A leader is one who knows the way, goes the way and shows the way.”

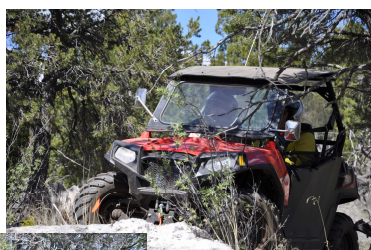
**John C.
Maxwell**



training course for the UTVs was no sugar cookie either, participants had to conquer some rough terrain during their training and show proficiency doing so.



Cochise people who made it to the conference, missing is Freddy.



Some of the UTVs were set up for patient extraction. Pretty cool concept



It takes a lot of dedication, determination and patience to get a search canine to be a fully qualified/certified search dog.



Harry—State SAR Coordinator's pick for “Volunteer of the year for all of Arizona.



5.8.15 Assist SVPD with a search

David activated the team for this mission around 1535 hrs. SVPD had been looking for a subject since about noon, who walked away from his home. It was believed the subject had suffered a stroke and was not doing well. Several of our team members responded, Fred and Katherine were in the area with Scott who saw the subject laying face down simultaneously with SVPD in the wash at the corner of Foothills and Camino Del Norte. The subject was not responsive and was barely breathing. He was transported

via ambulance to the hospital for further treatment. We believe he made it, since we did not see an obituary in the paper.



Some survival training was also given during the conference. Here building a fire.

GIBBS' RULES

- *1: Never let suspects stay together
- *2: Always wear gloves at a crime scene.
- *3: Don't believe what you're told. Double check.
- *6: Never apologize. It's a sign of weakness.
- *7: Always be specific when you lie.
- *8: Never take anything for granted.
- *9: Never go anywhere without a knife.
- *12: Never date a co-worker.
- *15: Always work as a team.
- *18: It's better to seek forgiveness than ask permission.
- *22: Never, ever bother Gibbs in interrogation.
- *23: Never mess with a Marine's coffee if you want to live.
- *39: There is no such thing as coincidence.
- *51: Sometimes - You're wrong

"Leadership is practiced not so much in words as in attitude and in actions."
Harold S. Geneen

Self Rescue

Everyone should know how to conduct a self rescue once stuck on a cliff during a rappel. More than once, something could get caught in the descending control device, whatever you use. From long hair, to lose shirts you name it, anything and everything could get stuck in the device, or you run out of rope. Everything is possible.. If the problem is not solved correctly it could end up in tragedy. If a recreational subject gets stuck or his/her device get jammed we normally come to the rescue and raise the subject up via a haul line.

But what do YOU, the rescuer do, when your rappel device gets jammed up. You have to have the ability and skill to get out of this predicament.

Always have a some type of prussic loop, mechanical ascender with leg sling on you while rappelling. The prussic loop should be about 9 feet long before making the three wrap double fisherman's. Once you attach this above your jammed device, you will be able to place one foot into the sling, thus you are able to pull your-

self up and free your jammed device.

Find out what caused the rappel device to be jammed and therefore preventing your descent. You might be able to jack or break it free. **Never ever use a knife to cut the object causing the jam. The rope is to close to the object and can easily be cut and you will take a quick 30 second ride to the bottom.**

Secure yourself to the rope by locking off the rappel device. If the item is too entangled into the rappel device, use a doubled arm's length of rope from below to create a bite of about 24 inches. Use the bite and secure it with a doubled over-hand knot onto the rope above the rappel device.

Attach yourself rescue rope device, prussic or ascender above the jammed rappel device. Slip one foot into the loop and stand up to release your body weight from the jammed rappel device. Your weight will transfer and release the pressure from the rappel device. Using your non dominant hand

to hold your self upright, and use your dominant hand to free the jammed rappel device. Untie the lock off and tie off on your rappel device and continue your rappel. If you use a figure 8/rescue 8 make sure your brake hand is back on the running part of the rope below the device.

We will be practicing this during our June 6th, personal skills training at the Charleston bridge. This will create a bit of a challenge, since you will be hanging free with no wall support.

"Team player. One who unites others towards a shared destiny through sharing information and ideas, empowering others and developing trust."

Dennis Kinlaw



We tried this and it actually works



5.8.15 Search, In Balance Ranch Rd

This was one busy weekend, one mission after another. David activated the team around 1900 hours for this search mission. CCSAR was called out to search for a 17 yr old male who had walked away from a group home in Whetstone, AZ. The subject also had severe diabetes and had to take 6 shots a day. The home stated he had his last shot right around 1500 hours. However, even after the shot his blood sugar was still very low and he left before eating dinner.

AZDPS Tucson Ranger responded and began an air search. Ground, tracking, K9 and ATV teams deployed from the LKP. Teams searched until 0300 hrs. and due to exhaustion the search was suspended until 0530 hrs. At that time another SAR Coordinator came in along with AZDOC Douglas Prison chase team, US Border Patrol Agents and a CBP helicopter was called.

US Border Patrol Agents were assigned to search the eastside of the railroad bed, located along the edge of the San Pedro River. At 1000 hrs. USBP located foot sign and began to track. AZDOC joined the BP Agents and at 1115 hrs. located the subject. He was transported back to the CP where he was evaluated by Medics and transported to Sierra Vista Hospital.



Dominic is getting ready to head out with Scott to continue the search

The DOC Chase team heading out to the last known point



(LKP) of the subject to commence their search with canines Cassy and Elvis.

Harry taking over the opera-



tion for Raul, who was out on scene all night long. We went from a Hasty Search to an Area Search in operational period I.



The MCU also returned with new personnel to assist with the continued search mission.



Personnel took a break whenever they could to recharge their batteries. While the ATV



team is returning from their assignment, and to receive new search instructions.



The ground team is getting a ride back, after the subject has been located over 1.5 miles from the home. This team also located a barefoot print of the subject and was tracking him as well. Great job team.



Gabby giving her canine the opportunity to react to the

**"Remember
Teamwork
begins by
building trust.
And the only
way to do that
is to overcome
our need for
invulnerability."**

Patrick Lencioni

subject she had been looking
for/tracking the night before.



A big thank you to everyone who assisted in this search from CCSO SAR personnel, to BP and the DOC Chase team with their canines. Again thank you.

June 2015

Sun Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Schedule of Events

- 6.4.15 Pre-meeting training and meeting 1730 hrs Foothills
- 6.6.15 Personal Skills and Pre-helo training Charleston bridge 0900 hrs
- 6.13.15 Helo re-quals and ingress egress for new personnel - mandatory
- 6.18.15 Coordinator training
- 6/20.15 Mow Party E Stronghold w/ BBQ lunch

5.10.15 Search Willcox—missing person

On 05-10-15 David activated the team around 2300 hours for a search for a subject suffering from severe epilepsy, who had walked away from his home earlier in the day. He received the initial call around 2100 hours from a deputy asking for his assistance in possibly pinging the subject's phone. The ping was negative and SAR to include AZ DPS Air rescue were activated.

The missing subject was with his father earlier in the day, when he walked off. The subject was last seen around 1000 hours at the Circle K on Rex Allen Dr. Footprints were located on Patter St, where the subject came out of the desert area, but were found showing the subject re-entered the desert.

David prior to the arrival of the SAR team checked the area as well and photographed the subject's shoe prints for the responding SAR units.

AZDPS Tucson Ranger was deployed to search certain desert areas to include the rail road tracks, with negative contact in locating the subject. CCSAR were deployed to search the north side of Patte Rd. looking for a possible location of where the subject might have gone back into the desert to walk home.

At approximately 0120 hours David received a call from the case deputy, who informed him she had located the subject at the Motel 6. CCSAR and David responded to Motel 6 and met with the deputy, who told them the clerk had rented a room to the subject about one to two hours ago. A check of the room showed the subject to be okay and he was turned over to his father.

The greater the loyalty of a group toward the group, the greater is the motivation among the member to achieve the goals of the group, and the greater the probability that the group will achieve its goals.

Rensis Likert

5.23.15 Almost Graham County Short Haul Assist

Lt. Jerry Nelson, SAR Coordinator for Graham County, called for our assistance on Saturday. He needed short haul personnel for two juveniles stuck on the waterfall located on Frye Mesa. Both of his short haul personnel was out of town. Unfortunately, the call came in around quarter to six, and AZ DPS Air rescue does not conduct any short hauls in the dark. By the time we would have arrived, a short haul would have been out of the question, and rope extraction would have been to be set up. Jerry called us back telling us he received help from the Morenci Mine technical rescue crew, who set up a haul system above the juveniles and our assistance was no longer required. It would have taken the team well over two hours to make it to

location. Deuce was hoping for a short haul on this one, no dice. Maybe next time.



Good bye Raul and Debbie after over 30 years of continued service to the citizens and visitors to Cochise County both decided to retire from SAR—they are moving to the northern part of the state enjoying cooler weather and exploring different opportunities. Good Luck and bon voyage.

Here is a bit of history of SAR by S10 Raul Limon.

It all began in November of 1982. The news was discussing the disappearance and death of a 9 year old boy in Turkey Creek, Chiricahua Mountains. The family's last name was Sunderland. He was playing hide and seek with his friends and family who were celebrating Thanksgiving weekend in the canyon.

I thought it was so tragic and naively thought that should not have happened. In early 1983 I heard of a team called Search and Find equipped (SAFE) created by Bill McCormick to provide Search capabilities to the Cochise County Sheriff Department. I thought it was a great idea and joined in the summer of 1983.

We trained but were not called out for missions. A group called Explorer Post 400 Search and Rescue was getting the callouts. It was in 1984 when I heard of a post open house so I went and joined. This group was geared for training scouts in search and rescue. I became an advisor even though the scouts knew more about SAR than I did. This is when I met Larry Dever then a Sergeant with the sheriff department and Manny Gomez a California trained SAR person. This post also trained in rope rescue which was new to me

In 1985 I was approached by some members and asked if I wanted to be part of a new team to be named Cochise County Search and Rescue. It would be an adult team 18 and older specializing in rope rescue. Five of us Manny Gomez, John Hines, Larry Aldridge, Lance Amatulli and myself were the original members. We approached the Sheriff Department Search and Rescue Coordinator Larry Dever with our proposal. He was in favor of such a team as a backup or secondary mission team. In October of 1985 I was selected as the team lead and we became operational.

We were Christened in fire on the first week. The county had an influx of missions and many were given to us since the scouts had to be in school during the week. Once others heard of us they joined our ranks. It was inevitable that we would become involved in search. Since the scouts had school we began to take on searches and the trainings required to develop those skills. You needed man tracking skills, no helicopter in them days to do the work of a searcher. We had to change our name to Cochise County Sheriff's Search and Rescue.

In 1986 the Explorer Post 400 began to lose all their senior advisors since they were military and subject to transfer. By 1987 we were the only team left.

I should be thanking the Sheriff Department and Search and Rescue for allowing me to become a Volunteer SAR Coordinator. It has been an experience I will never forget.

V/R

Raul Limon
CCSAR SAR 10 retired
520-249-xxxx

If you were lost in the woods and about to die. How much would you pay someone to come rescue you? Search & Rescue volunteers will do it for free.



Years of Service in Review

A Tribute to Raul Limon SAR IO - Retired

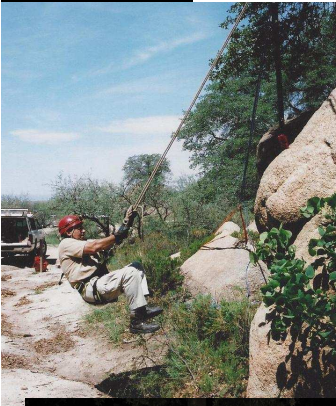
Raul Limon has given over thirty plus years of continuous unselfish devotion and leadership to the Cochise County Sheriff's Department Search and Rescue team. He was one of the founding members of the Cochise County SAR Team back in 1985 with Manny Gomez and several others, to include the late Sheriff Larry Dever.

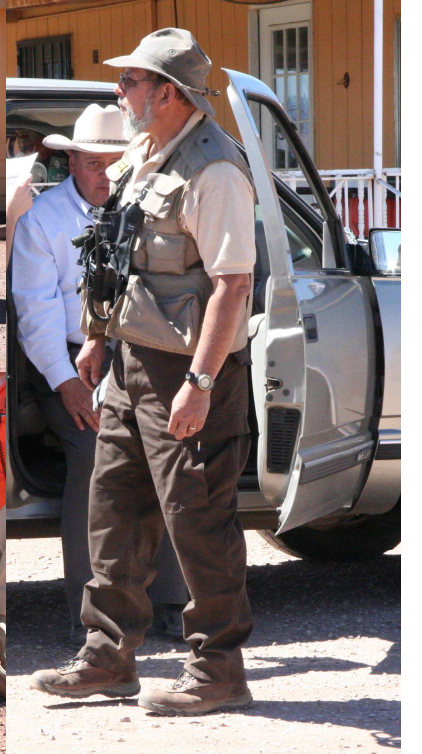
Raul Limon has been a vital part of the Cochise County SAR Team having promoted the volunteer spirit., so essential for keeping viable manpower available for search and rescue. Raul Limon was responsible for the entire technical aspect of this group, donating hundreds of hours, not only by responding to missions, but by also giving valuable training to the volunteers on a regular basis. His rope rescue skills and search knowledge have been invaluable to this team and educating/training new members as they joined the Cochise County SAR team.

Raul Limon has been, up to his recent retirement, an active part of CCSO continually and actively training and aiding Cochise County SAR personnel, especially in rope skills, being the Operations Chief during any technical rescue and search mission. His knowledge and expertise cannot be replaced easily. Raul Limon ensured all SAR personnel were up to speed on rope rescue allowing, a smooth rescue operation.

In conclusion, Raul Limon embodies a long history of self-less devotion, honed technical skills. His volunteering and leadership has allowed countless families to avoid the ultimate grief over the death of their loved ones or to receive dignified closure when nothing could have prevented it. Raul Limon was instrumental in CCSO SAR becoming the volunteer organization it is today – a group of professional, very dedicated men and women, giving countless hours to the cause – *Cochise County Search and Rescue – YOUR SOS!*









April	02	Business Meeting, 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex w/ Training at 1730 hrs
	04	*Specialty Training: Stokes Packaging & Carry-Out West Stronghold 687D
	16	Dive tender training at Foothills at 1730-2100 hrs.
	18	Training: Dive Training at Parker Lake at 0900 hrs.
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-May	1-3	SAR Conference at Heber, AZ
	07	Business Meeting, 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex w/ Training at 1730 hrs
	09	*Specialty training: Vortex and mine shaft exploratory at Geronimo Trail area west of Douglas cold case
	16	Swiftwater Training – Parker Canyon Lake
	21	Coordinator Training-Foothills 1000 hrs. (Coordinators Only)
	30	*Specialty training: Practical Tech Skills at Carr Canyon at 0900 hrs
	30	Swiftwater Rodeo in Phoenix
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June	04	Business Meeting, 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex w/ Training at 1730 hrs
	06	*Specialty training: Rappel Training & personal skills at Charleston Bridge at 0800 hrs
	13	*Specialty training: Helo-Re-Quals at East Stronghold 0900 hrs / ingress/egress new personnel
	18	Coordinator Training-Foothills 1000 hrs. (Coordinators Only)
	20	*Specialty Training- “Mow Party” East Stronghold
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July	02	Business Meeting, 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex w/ Training at 1730 hrs
	11	*Specialty training: Tech training at Carr Canyon at 0800 hrs.
	16	Coordinator Training-Foothills 1000 hrs. (Coordinators Only)
	18	Trauma First Aid training at Foothills at 0800-1700 hrs.
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Aug	01	* Specialty Training: Scree Belay/Low Angle Techniques-Carr Canyon
	06	Business Meeting 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex w/ Training at 1730 hrs
	15	Training: Map/Compass/GPS-Foothills
	20	Coordinator Training-Foothills 1000 hrs. (Coordinators Only)
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Sept	04	Business Meeting 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex w/Training at 1730 hrs
		*Specialty Training: Stokes Work-West Stronghold
	17	Coordinator Training-Foothills 1000 hrs. (Coordinators Only)
	19	Training: Helo Tuneup/Personal Skills-Charleston Bridge
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Oct	02	Business Meeting 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex w/ Training at 1730 hrs
	03	*Specialty Training: Tentative-Helo Re-Quals East Stronghold
	15	Coordinator Training-Foothills 1000 hrs. (Coordinators Only)
	17-18	Training-Overnight at East Stronghold
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Nov	05	Business Meeting 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex w/ Training at 1730 hrs
	07	*Specialty training: TBA ‘
	19	Coordinator Training-Foothills 100 hrs (Coordinators Only)
	21	*Specialty Training-TBA
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Dec	03	Business Meeting, 1830 hrs at Foothills Complex & Christmas Party 1730 hrs
	05	Volunteer: Christmas Parade S.V.
	17	Coordinator Training-Foothills 1000 hrs. (Coordinators Only)

In anticipation of the Swift Water Rodeo to be held May 30, several of the swift water team members conducted some training at Parker Canyon lake. We covered a tension highline with boat handling and picking up a victim, boat handling—rowing, rescue swimming, pulling subject into the boat to include boat turning. The water was fairly cold, but everyone had a blast. Granted we did not have any swift running water, but the team experienced what is required. They still need to practice the throw bags. Wish them all the luck.

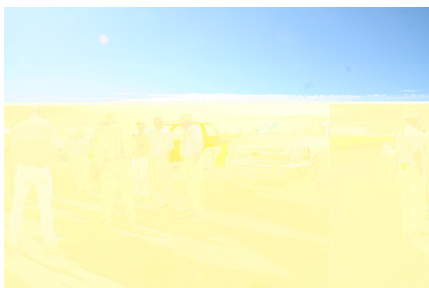


5.17.2015 Assist Detectives with a cold case

CCSO Detectives received some information regarding a very old cold case and they needed the technical expertise of our SAR team. We were tasked to check a mine shaft located very close to the border requiring

some additional security. Sgt Parker is briefing the team. In order to get to

passable for our long vehicles and most of the required gear was hauled up via the ATVs. Setting up the anchor and VORTEX.



the location of the mine shaft we had to utilize ATVs. The road was not



Cold case continued



Some of our security watching over us in the back ground.

Bill being lowered into the 100 foot



mine shaft.
Dominic is getting ready to be low-



ered, with Deuce making sure everything is hooked up the right way.



The lowering/haul team (Raul, Yvonne, and Travis) waiting for the signal to lower Dominic.



The team converting to a haul to haul Bill and Dominic back up from the mine shaft, using a 5:1 system.



Command Post and vehicle staging area to the right

Hauling was not an easy task, even



the mine inspector helped out with resetting the system.



Roxy also showed no interest in the samples brought from the mine shaft, but went nuts over the scent article



5.25.15 Rescue Assist Chiricahua National Monument

David send me a text around 1515 hours to get in touch with Operations Supervisor Karl Sommerhauser, National Park in regard to an agency assist—Carry Out for an injured hiker. The team was activated upon talking to Sommerhauser. He indicated they did not have enough personnel to conduct a carry out of a male subject located at the junction of Echo Canyon and Rhyolite Canyon. We later learned the subject suffered heat related distress and some blood pressure problems. We had an excellent turnout for this mission. Thank you all for abandoning your planned BBQ for this Memorial Day.

A total of 15 personnel responded. Three separate teams were deployed. Initially park service personnel wanted to conduct the carry out back up Echo Canyon trail to the road. Once told it would be somewhat easier to transport down hill and finding out more personnel was en-route they abandoned their initial plan. Yes there were some difficult areas in the down hill portion of Rhyolite Canyon Trail, but nothing which could not be accomplished. Teams did bring the scree bag and rope for possible tree belays in these difficult

areas, but none was used. The mission was concluded around 2030 hours with the subject having been transferred to medical personnel and transported to Willcox hospital for further evaluation. Other family members in this group from Texas were transported by park personnel to their vehicle left in the parking lot of Massai Point.



The mission began at daylight and ended during hours of darkness (top photo courtesy of R62 Walter)



July 2015

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Schedule of Events

7.2.15 Training and meeting, Foothills 1730

7.11.15 Tech Training Carr Canyon—Scree work / Stokes handling

7.16.15 Coordinator training Foothills 1000

7.18.15 Trauma First Aid training Foothills 0800 to 1700 hrs (certification)

5.28.2015 Search Mission, In Balance Ranch Academy

What a May this has been, around 8 training and actual missions with close to 1000 volunteer hours expended, to include several thousand of private vehicle and department vehicle miles. All I can say heads up to all of you. The month is not yet over, three days left, lets hope for the best. Not. We had two more missions, and one almost mission.

This mission actual began around 1600 hours, when academy personnel called in a missing youth, who had walked off quite desponded after a family counseling session. This mission was a dejavu all over again, except the subject was different.

We deployed an ATV team, mobile team, tracking team and a K9 team, to include AZ DPS Air Rescue. For some reason, OMAHA 43Lima was also activated, don't know by whom, and responded to the area. This sure posed a serious safety issue, you never want to have two helo's on the same air space. Luckily the DPS crew was able to converse with the Omaha crew and it all worked out.

The tracking team and K9 team started at the last know point (LKP) and began to track. Unfortunately academy personnel, BP, and SO personnel kind of obliterated the area and it was a bit difficult to search and track.

The mobile team was in the area of Trails End Rd (Thurston), when a phone call was received from our missing person. He stopped by a home after he became cold and a bit under the

weather. He was able to call one of the staff members and told them he was walking on a dirt road named Star Ave. The mobile team was deployed to the area, and DPA Air Rescue gave air support stating the subject was walking toward the mobile unit. Other CCSO units responded to the location to transport the subject back to the academy and to be medically checked. He checked out okay and did not require a transport to the hospital.

The youth indicated he was distraught and needed to clear his head. He zigzagged through the desert and then made contact with someone at the home. He did have a bottle of water, but ran out.

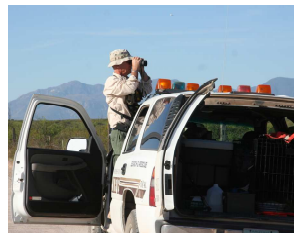


5.29 and 5.30.15 Back to Back Missions and One Almost Mission / 5.30.15 Swift Water Rodeo

What a week this has been. We ended up with three more missions and one almost mission between Friday and Saturday. The almost mission with a SAR stand by occurred Friday afternoon around 1500 hours, with our missing person not being missing at all and okay. So SAR was cancelled. The second mission occurred around 1730 hours, when Benson Patrol asked for assistance with a female, off medication, subject disappeared. Total mission time, 1 hour. The subject was located in an area several miles from the last known point. The luck lasted not long. Around 2300 hours, we received a call regarding an undocumented alien having called 911 indicating he was in distress. The call was initially

given to border patrol, since the area of the search was in Presidential Estates and thus not so far from the checkpoint. A call back was not received, whether or not the subject was located. When communications was contacted they were told BP was AT'ing the area. Subsequently SAR was activated and responded with several personnel to include a canine. We searched the LKP and only found prints from border patrol indeed having checked the area. We also checked with local residence, and cut sign along the washes to see if the subject might have walked through. Negative on everything including the air search. We suspended this mission around 0900 hours. We later learned the subject was pick up by border patrol

in the area of Miller Canyon the Beaty Ranch. The phone ping coordinates were off by over 20 miles I would say. Maybe because it was a Mexican cell phone.



While we searched for this distressed UDA, four of our members participated in the swift water rodeo in Phoenix. They might not have placed among the first three, but I bet they learned a lot, and saw this as pretty good swift water training. Great Job you guys!

